Rubric for a Collaborative 21st Century Skills Unit Plan

Introduction

Using this rubric, teachers can assess their inclusion of differentiated teaching practices that will reach the needs of their diverse learners. Problem-based Learning (PBL) with the inclusion of 21st century Skills is a collaborative learning model that takes a significant amount of effort over a predetermined amount of time. The key elements of this unit plan design are: collaboration among professional staff, a learner-centered environment; and assessment of teaching practices that improve learning and higher order thinking for *all* students.

The student learns in a holistic manner requiring a variety of experiences, assessment strategies, and feedback that develop the lifelong learning skills needed to be successful in a global-digital society. This particular model addresses 7 categories of a Unit Design:

1. Learning Environment,

2. Unit Focus,

3. The Planning Process,

4. The Problem/s & Scenarios,

5. Assessment Strategies,

6. Tools and Resources, and

7. Reflections.

This rubric is designed to communicate the various levels of complexity that encompass 21st Century Skills unit planning. The details articulated in each column are components of a continuum. It is to be expected that no one unit would encompass each aspect of the continuum. The purpose of the Rubric is to foster discussion and thinking when units are being designed. The categories vary across the continuum in objectives, and student expectations, higher order thinking, and degrees of collaboration and independence. By moving across the continuum in each category the teacher/s are guiding the learners to reach a higher level of thinking and problem solving; skills needed in the competitive and collaborative, highly technological, 21st century world of work.

# Critical Information

Teachers’ names \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail of contact teacher \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Subject/s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grade or target audience \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date unit introduced \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date unit is to be completed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_